

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0011] beginning on page 3 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

In the illustrated embodiment, the tray 14 has a floor 30, three raised sides 32 and a fourth side with an edge 36 defining a void 38. The tray 14 defines a cavity 28 for receiving a liquid 40. The tray 14 is positioned below the animal support means 18. The tray 14 or any other suitable receptacle is configured to permit passage of a liquid 40 and waste that falls from the animal support means 18. The liquid 40, with such waste materials, drains from the tray 14 into a hopper 16 associated with the tray 14. The tray 14 slopes towards the edge 36 defining the void 38 to enable the liquid 40 to drain through the void 38 into the hopper 16. The tray 14 may be of any other form of any suitable receptacle and the cavity 28 may have any suitable configuration in accordance with other embodiments. The slope of the tray 14 can be adjusted in any suitable manner, such as, for example, with adjustable screws 74 attached to the bottom of the tray 14. The tray 14 can also be designed to have a fixed slope capable of draining the liquid 40 towards edge 36. The animal support means 18, the tray 14, and the hopper 16 can be made of any suitable material, such as, for example, metal or plastic.